NOTE XXII.

ON A PROBABLY NEW SPECIES OF NEWTONIA FROM MADAGASCAR

BY

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Amongst a number of specimens of *Newtonia brunneicauda* from Madagascar in our Museum, I found two specimens which differ considerably from the great number of typical *N. brunneicauda* and undoubtedly belong to a second, hitherto undescribed species of this genus, which I propose to name

Newtonia olivacea.

Closely allied to *N. brunneicauda* (Newt.), but easily distinguished from the latter by the olive brown instead of ashy brown upper surface, the much darker, tawny brown color of the lower surface with the inclusion of the under wing-coverts, by the greater length of tarsus and toes, and by the difference in the proportional length of the primaries, the fourth primary being a little shorter than the fifth instead of equal to it. In the length of the bill, wing and tail both species are alike.

Entire upper surface, sides of head and neck, upper wing-coverts and tail uniform dark olive brown, without the least tinge of ashy gray; quills dark brown, the secondaries broadly edged with the color of the back, the primaries with ochraceous brown; lower surface of body tawny brown, inclining to fulvous on the centre of the breast, the under wing-coverts and the edge of the wing; thighs chestnut-brown; chin, upper throat and under tail-coverts ashy white. Wing much rounded, first primary about half the length of the wing, fifth and sixth primaries the longest, about 2 mm. longer than the fourth, third primary equal to the secondaries in length (in most of our 11 specimens of *N. brunneicauda* the fourth primary is equal in length to the fifth). The tail is composed of 12 feathers and strongly rounded.

Color of iris not mentioned, bill black, bristles strongly developed, feet (in the dried skins) leaden gray. Wing 5,1—5,3 cm.; tail 4,1; culmen 1,3; tarsus 2,1; middle toe with claw 1,5; hind toe with claw 1,2. (Wing, tail and bill of *N. brunneicauda* are equal to the same of the present species, but the tarsus measures only 1,8, the middle toe with claw 1,2, and the hind toe 1 cm.).

Two specimens from Savary, N. E. Madagascar, collected by Audebert (1878).

(The wing in the drawing given by Sharpe, Cat. B. Br. Mus. III, p. 148, is represented as having the third primary the longest, which does not agree with the numerous specimens of *Newtonia* in the Leyden Museum).

Leyden Museum, November 1896.